

Message Text

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73

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 HEW-08 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01

USIA-12 RSR-01 /132 W

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R 221705 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9077

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

UNCLAS RABAT 2357

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EGEN MO

SUBJECT: CERP/ ERG: KING OPENS SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PLAN AND
PROMOTION NATIONAL

1. SUMMARY. KING HAS UNVEILED AMITIOUS TARGETS FOR NEW FIVE- YEAR PLAN, CALLING FOR DOUBLING INVESTMENT AND INCREASING RATE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH TO 7.5 PERCENT YEARLY. PLAN IS NOW BEING STUDIED BY SUPERIOR COUNCIL FOR PLAN AND SHOULD RECEIVE FINAL APPROVAL IN NEAR FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING OPENING SESSION OF SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PLAN ON MAY 21 KING HASSAN GAVE SPEECH DESCRIBING PRINCIPLES UNDERLYING PROPOSED NEW FIVE- YEAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND CITING SOME SPECIFIC GOALS TO BE ACHIEVED. NEW GOALS FOR INVESTMENT AND RATES OF GROWTH ARE CONSIDERABLY MORE AMITIOUS THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED AND WILL REQUIRE MASSIVE MOBILIZATION OF DOMESTIC RESOURCES AND GREATLY INCREASED FOREIGN AID IF GOALS ARE TO BE ACHIEVED.

3. KING SAID MOROCCO WOULD BE GUIDED BY KORAN IN ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WOULD FOLLOW NEITHER CAPITALIST
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NOR SOCIALIST MODELS. HE LISTED SOME ACTIVITIES WHICH COULD BEST BE CARRIED OUT BY GOVERNMENT AND OTHERS WHICH SHOULD BE RECERVED FOR PRIVATE ANTERPRISE. HE SPOKE OF THE NEED TO MOBILIZE ALL HUMAN RESOURCES OF COUNTRY AND HIS DESIRE FOR A MORE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH. HE THOUGHT THAT AGRICULTRURAL PRODUCTION COULD BE IMPROVED THROUGH OTHER MEANS THAN LAND REDISTRIBUTION WHICH HE SAID HAD FAILED EVERYWHERE; HE DID THINK HOWEVER THAT AMOUNT OF LAND BY ONE OWNER SHOULD BE LIMITED.

4. PLAN WILL CALL FOR ANNUAL GROWTH RATE OF 7.5 PERCENT (COMPARED TO 4.3 PERCENT IN LAST PLAN) AND TOTAL INVESTMENT OF 26 BILLION DIRHAMS (APPROXIMATELY 6.5 BILLION DOLLARS) OF WHICH 11 BILLION WILL BE INVESTMENT BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. THIS IS OVER TWICE INVESTMENT PROJECTED IN LAST PLAN.

5. KING ADDRESSED HIMSELF PARTICULARLY TO NEED TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT. HE ESTIMATED THAT ACHIEVEMENT OF PLAN WOULD REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT TO 255, 000 BY END OF PLAN (LAST YEAR HE ESTIMATED PERMANENT UNEMPLOYMENT AT 350,00).

6. KING FRANKLY RECOGNIZED THAT CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES WERE DEFICIENT AND NEEDED TO BE REFORMED IF GOALS OF PLAN WERE TO BE ACHIEVED. HE SAID HE HAD ORDERED THE PRIME MINISTER TO INSTRUCT MINISTRY OF FINANCE TO WORK OUT PROCEDURES WHICH WOULD PERMIT RAPID UTILIZATION OF CREDITS.

7. HE ENDED SPEECH BY REFERRING TO MOROCCAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM WHICH HE SAID HAD BEEN COPIED FROM EUROPEAN MODELS AND WAS NOT SUITABLE FOR MOROCCO. HE HAD ORDERED MINSTER OF JUSTICE TO PREPARE A PROGRAM WHICH WOULD SIMPLIFY AND REFORM MOROCCAN JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

8. SUPERIOR COUNCIL OF PLAN WAS ADJOURNED FOR ONE WEEK AFTER INITIAL MEETING TO PERMIT STUDY OF PLAN. IT IS POSSIBLE THEREFORE THAT PLAN COULD RECEIVE FINAL APPROVAL WHEN COUNCIL MEETS AGAIN NEXT WEEK.
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